

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BONN 13713 271528Z
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 INT-05 GSA-02 ISO-00 EUR-12 EA-10 COME-00
TRSE-00 OPIC-03 XMB-02 SS-15 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-10
NSAE-00 L-03 /073 W
-----097358 281312Z /43

R 271521Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0631
INFO AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L BONN 13713

E. O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: EMIN, GW
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE NICKEL DIALOGUE

REF: (A) STATE 183006 (B) STATE 184533

1. EMBOFF DISCUSSED WITH HERR FEHLING (MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS) FRG ATTITUDE TOWARD AUSTRALIAN INITIATIVE RE INTERNATIONAL WORKING PARTY AND INTERNATIONAL DISCUSSION GROUP FOR NICKEL AND PRESENTED U.S. VIEWS AS SET OUT REFTEL (A). FEHLING SAID FRG ATTITUDE CORRESPONDED ALMOST EXACTLY TO U.S. THINKING WITH POSSIBLE EXCEPTION THAT FRG MIGHT FEEL CONSTRAINED TO ATTEND A MEETING TO DISCUSS POSSIBILITY OF PRODUCER-CONSUMER FORUM (PCF) FOR NICKEL, ALTHOUGH FRG FIRMLY OPPOSES ANY IDEA OF ESTABLISHING SUCH A PCF.

2. GERMAN RATIONALE BEHIND THIS IS THAT FRG WISHES TO AVOID GIVING ANY UNNECESSARY OFFENSE TO AUSTRALIANS, WHOM THEY EXPECT TO BE SOLICITING AT SOME
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PAGE 02 BONN 13713 271528Z

FUTURE TIME TO SUPPLY URANIUM.

3. FEHLING SAID, HOWEVER, IT WAS ONLY A QUESTION OF SAYING "NO" TO A PCF NOW OR IN THE COURSE OF A MEETING LATER ON (EMBOFF VOLUNTEERED, THE CLEANER OPTION WOULD SEEM TO BE TO REGISTER A DEFINITE OBJECTION NOW RATHER THAN LATER). HE INSISTED THAT THE

FRG'S LACK OF ANY ENTHUSIASM FOR A PCF WAS MADE
ABUNDANTLY CLEAR TO THE AUSTRIALIAN EMBASSY
REPRESENTATIVE IN THE COURSE OF THE DISCUSSION MENTIONED
IN REFTEL (B) AND THAT IT WAS HIS IMPRESSION THAT THE
AUSTRIALIANS THEMSELVES WERE NOT SANGUINE ABOUT THE
SUCCESS OF THEIR OWN INITIATIVE.
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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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